

Sisters' S. C. E.

From the President

Dear fellow-workers.—The treasurer's S. S. C. E. report in the last EVANGELIST of 1901, showed a gratifying number of dollar pledges. I trust each giver will be also as faithful in making the next payment. The treasurer requests that I make a statement asking all the pledgers to remit the next dollar when due without her writing to notify them. Do this each year, as it is quite enough for her to send the receipt to every one. A good plan is to have the president of the local society appoint one of the pledgers to gather the same that is due from others in the church, then send it with hers to Mrs. Augustine's address—South Bend, Indiana. This will save the treasurer from writing to you twice. Those who were interested enough to take the pledges, surely will not need urging to attend to the fulfillment of their promise. For this, as well as for the prompt January remittance, I would come to you with the force of the appeal in Sister Wise's letter of the week before.

Brother Bowman has just entered upon a season of revival sermons at the Mission every night except Saturday. To insure success, this will mean far more work during the day, than at the night services. House-to-house visitation counts for much.

One of the most discouraging days in my work as organizer was the visit to Sunfield in Michigan. Sister Phoebe Darby, who went with me from Freeport, thought there was a slight possibility of organizing an S. S. C. E. The small band of believers had lately emerged from "dunkardism," and our efforts seemed fruitless, but the result was left with God. Recently they requested an organization, and Sister Darby made another trip, this time to crown the work begun a few years ago. Sister Darby is exemplary as a member of the executive committee in that she is ever ready to respond where there is a call for a society in that part of the state. Thus the number of societies may be steadily increased even tho the organizer is not in the field. Let me encourage organizing societies thru the members of the executive committee in the district. Where there is no state organization write either to me, or to Mrs. Augustine for the needed information.

Yesterday was laid to rest the body of Mrs. Cassel and now they say "she sleeps but lives." For a number of years she was the treasurer of the Philadelphia S. S. C. E. one of the most loyal societies in the brotherhood. It again reminds us that time and opportunities are growing less, and what we ever expect to do to hasten the kingdom of God, ought to be done *now*. But there is so much to be done at every turn, what first? Only this,—with each moment yielded to God, we rest, and where his light falls we see our *present* duty. Not always does he permit us to see far ahead, but neither does he

ask us to take the next step without him. One of his workers said:—

"I see not a step before me,
As I approach another year:
But the past is in God's keeping,
The future his mercy shall clear,
And what looks dark in the distance
May brighten as I draw near!"

VIANNA DETWILER.

2000 S. 17th St., Phila.

Falls City, Neb.

At the close of the year 1901 I shall make a report of the Falls City S. S. C. E. and try to have a report every six months. The society was organized in 1896 with Bro. Keller as president. The society made their own constitution and by laws, but later when Sister Grossnickle Hedrick visited them they adopted the national constitution. There were devotional exercises held once a month for a while but for a couple of years nothing but work meetings. We meet twice a month. We do quilting, knot comforts, sew carpet rags, make mittens, bonnets, aprons, etc. We have no church festivals. We have served meals on great days in town, but not of late as we have but few young persons in our society, and do what is easiest to do. I looked over the books and found there has been near three hundred dollars earned and paid out. When we built our new church in 1897 we paid \$87 00 for carpets, and \$25 00 on the papering, and whenever there is any money to raise for any purpose we always pay a share and the brethren seem to think we are such a help. They are now asking us to save our money to buy lots to build a parsonage on. Well we all feel happy that we are looked to as a help, especially when we remember what a low estimate was put on woman's worth in olden times. We do charitable work when we know where it is needed. We also try to be loving, kind, patient and forgiving to one another. I think we miss much by not having devotional exercises. I think it such a help spiritually and gives us exercise in speaking and prayer. In a town where I am acquainted the Christian women organized a mother's prayer meeting, and I heard women pray who attended those meetings who thought it was impossible for them to utter a sentence in public, before they went to them. And at a funeral of a club man (in that city) his wife made a prayer over his coffin after the sermon, in which she prayed for those fashionable drinkers as her husband had been, and for her sons who were yet young, and such a heart rending prayer is seldom heard. Men broke down and wept who had not shed tears for years, and that mother learned to pray in a mother's prayer meeting.

I hope no one in the brotherhood who reads Sister Wise's letter will stop at the reading but do something. Our sister who was appointed at National Conference to work in the Kanemorado district has written many letters, but only one church has re-

sponded yet, and that in the far west. I hope all who read this will hunt up the letter you received from Mrs. John Lichty, and answer at once and send in a big donation for her to send to the fund for Superannuated Ministers. NINA B. LICHTY.

Mexico, Ind.

Dear Sisters: At the beginning of this New Year I feel it my duty to send a few lines for the sisters' column, having been chosen corresponding secretary of our S. S. C. E. several weeks ago, but from various causes have been silent all these days. Am made to wonder many times why is it we are so negligent about the Master's work; we will try to do everything for ourselves first. At the opening of this New Year may we strive harder to be more earnest in the work for the Master.

Just at this time our S. S. C. E. is not doing anything financially, except the free will offering, and some have pledged two cents a week, these are paid at our regular monthly meeting. We meet the first Wednesday of each month at the home of some one of the sisters, usually in the home of one that is deprived of the privilege of meeting with us in our S. S. C. E. We read a certain chapter each time, have talks on the verses read, also singing and prayers. These meetings are a great help to all who attend. We find it difficult to have a good attendance, many living several miles from place of meeting. Last year we made quite a nice sum of money by giving lunch and dinner at public sales, it is a pretty hard way to make money, especially to give dinners, now we have decided to serve lunch if we do any more of that kind of work.

As spring work begins we have quilting, sewing, and carpet rags to sew; we expect to begin next week on three quilts. These will be given to three sisters in different parts of the neighborhood, making it more convenient to get to the work.

The first Wednesday in December we met at sister J. T. Hood's, made and fixed clothing for the Chicago mission. While we sewed the brethren chopped wood for the church and for a brother who had the misfortune to lose the fingers of one hand.

We often wonder too sometimes, why all this hustling, and working in different ways to earn a few pennies, then we think of the many poor, helpless mothers and children suffering for food and clothing, when we have plenty and comfortable homes, this inspires us to new zeal and energy, and feel that our hands should *always* be busy for the Master.

Dear co-workers may our efforts for good be more earnest and more united this year than ever before. We want to hear from more S. S. C. E. s. Tell us what you are doing. Don't forget the words of encouragement as we go about our work.

MRS. JOSIAH MANS

We must neither leave the world, nor love it.—Selected.